

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 09796 01 OF 02 241750Z

50

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CPR-02 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 PA-03

PRS-01 USIA-15 SY-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

RSR-01 H-03 /114 W

----- 046155

R 270050Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3575

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 09796

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OGEN, UN

SUBJECT: PARKING FACILITIES FOR MISSIONS TO INTER-
NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

REF: STATE 167702; USUN 2962

1. LONDON, LIKE NEW YORK, IS A CITY OF 8 MILLION PEOPLE AND HAS TRAFFIC PROBLEMS OF "VERY HEAVY" MAGNITUDE. DESPITE RELIANCE ON ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST AND BEST PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS, THE GREATER LONDON COUNCIL HAS IN RECENT PAST IMPLEMENTED MANY TRAFFIC PLANS -- I.E., ONE-WAY STREETS, PEDESTRIAN-ONLY STREETS, SPECIAL BUS LANES, ETC, IN EFFORT TO COPE WITH GROWING NUMBER OF VEHICLES AND VEHICLE-CREATED POLLUTION PROBLEMS AND TO KEEP THE OVERALL TRAFFIC SITUATION MANAGEABLE. ON BALANCE, THE SITUATION HAS PROBABLY DETERIORATED SOMEWHAT DURING PAST TWO YEARS AND THIS CIRCUMSTANCE SEEMS TO HAVE STEELED THE DETERMINATION OF THE COUNCIL TO DO EVEN MORE TO GET ON TOP OF THE PROBLEM.

2. BRITISH POLICE AUTHORITIES AT ALL LEVELS HAVE EXTENDED EVERY COURTESY TO DIPLOMATIC AND INTERNATIONAL MISSION PERSONNEL. NEVERTHELESS, NEITHER POLICE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 09796 01 OF 02 241750Z

OFFICIALS NOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE OFFICIALS

EXCUSE PERSONS IN SPECIAL CATEGORIES FROM GENERAL COMPLIANCE WITH BOTH SPIRIT AND LETTER OF TRAFFIC LAWS. CONCESSIONS ARE FEW IN NUMBER AND TIGHTLY CONTROLLED.

3. A RIGIDLY ENFORCED RULE IS THAT ONE (AND ONLY ONE) RESERVED PARKING PLACE WILL BE ALLOCATED TO A FOREIGN MISSION "IF THE NEED EXISTS AND TRAFFIC CONDITIONS PERMIT." THIS SINGLE SPACE IS FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF THE HEAD OF MISSION. HEADS OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ARE GIVEN SAME PREROGATIVES AS HEADS OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS. TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE THE LONDON COUNCIL WILL ESTABLISH THIS ONE RESERVED SPACE EITHER AT THE CHANCERY OR AT THE OFFICIAL RESIDENCE BUT NOT AT BOTH PLACES. IF THE CHANCERY OR RESIDENCE IS LOCATED ON A STREET OR SQUARE WHERE NO PUBLIC PARKING IS AUTHORIZED, NO EXCEPTION WILL BE MADE FOR THE CHIEF OF MISSION CONCERNED. (NOTE: THE US EMBASSY HAS NOT REQUESTED SUCH PARKING PRIVILEGES FOR THE US AMBASSADOR INASMUCH AS IT HAS OFF-STREET AND UNDER-COVER PARKING FOR THE CHIEF OF MISSION VEHICLES.)

4. THROUGHOUT LONDON THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF PARKING METERS AND HUNDREDS OF PRIVATELY OWNED PARKING LOTS AND GARAGES. WHILE PARKING IS OBVIOUSLY TIGHT, THESE FACILITIES ARE WIDELY DISPERSED AND ARE GENERALLY EFFICIENT. BECAUSE MOST DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS ARE CLUSTERED IN LONDON'S WEST END, MOST HAVE ADEQUATE PUBLIC PARKING FACILITIES WITHIN SIX BLOCK RADIUS.

5. OTHER THAN THE ONE SPACE PER MISSION PARKING NOTED ABOVE, NO SPECIAL ZONES OR GARAGES ARE SET ASIDE AT ANY POINT EXCLUSIVELY FOR PARKING DIPLOMATIC CARS. DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL ARE REQUIRED TO ADHERE TO ALL REGULATIONS AFFECTING NO PARKING, NO LOADING, AND NO WAITING ZONES. TOW-AWAY PRACTICES ARE FOLLOWED IN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 09796 02 OF 02 241750Z

50

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CPR-02 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15 SY-10 H-03

RSR-01 /114 W

----- 046172

R 270050Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3576

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 09796

LONDON AND DIPLOMATIC CARS ARE NOT EXEMPT FROM THIS RULE.

6. DESPITE THE AVAILABILITY OF CERTAIN PUBLIC PARKING FACILITIES, THERE HAS BEEN A STEADILY GROWING NUMBER OF TICKETS ISSUED TO DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL IN LONDON. THE MATTER RECEIVED PUBLIC ATTENTION EARLY IN 1973 WHEN A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT QUERIED THE GOVERNMENT ABOUT THE NUMBER OF TICKETS "FIXED ON GROUNDS OF DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGE." THE GOVT'S RESPONSE SHOWED THE NUMBER OF FIXED TICKETS DOUBLED BETWEEN 1967 AND 1972 WHEN THE TOTAL REACHED 31,892. WHILE THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES COURTEOUSLY FIX ALL SUCH UNPAID TICKETS, THEY REGULARLY REQUEST THE COOPERATION OF ALL MISSIONS IN AVOIDING VIOLATIONS OF TRAFFIC REGULATIONS.

7. THE BRITISH CAPITAL IS THE CENTER FOR NUMEROUS INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS SUCH AS UN/IMCO, SEATO, CENTO, AND COMMONWEALTH NATIONS. IT IS STANDARD PRACTICE ON SUCH OCCASIONS FOR THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE SPECIAL AREAS BOTH TO RECEIVE THE CARS OF PERSONS ATTENDING THESE MEETINGS AND TO PROVIDE WAITING FACILITIES WHILE MEETINGS ARE IN SESSION. MOREOVER, THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES ARE QUITE UNDERSTANDING ABOUT REQUESTS FOR SPECIAL TRAFFIC DETAILS TO FACILITATE HANDLING TRAFFIC PROBLEMS ON NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS. THESE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE AS MUCH TO ASSIST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 09796 02 OF 02 241750Z

THE BRITISH PUBLIC IN AVOIDING CONGESTED SITUATIONS AS IT IS TO RENDER FACILITATIVE SERVICE TO DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS. THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY AT LONDON HAS BENEFITTED FROM SUCH COURTESIES ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN RECENT YEARS.

SOHM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: worrelsw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LONDON09796
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730817/aaaaamkd.tel
Line Count: 162
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: STATE 167702; USUN 2962
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: worrelsw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08-Aug-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <16-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PARKING FACILITIES FOR MISSIONS TO INTER- NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
TAGS: OGEN, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005